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Economic and Social Council

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**Commission on Sustainable Development**
**Twentieth session**
20 September 2013
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
**Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

## Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Lessons learned from the Commission on Sustainable Development, and the way forward.
4. Conclusion of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development.
5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twentieth session.

## Annotations

### 1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council stipulates that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the Commission shall elect from among the representatives of its members a Chair and such other officers as may be required. In previous sessions, the Commission elected, in addition to a Chair, four Vice-Chairs, one of whom also served as Rapporteur.

In its resolution 1997/63, the Council decided on the following future arrangements for the election of the Bureau of the Commission in order to implement the provisions of paragraph 136 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21:

> The Commission, immediately following the closure of a regular session, shall hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chair and other members of the Bureau in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council.

On 11 May 2011, the Commission elected Mazhit Turmagambetov (Kazakhstan) as Chair and Bosiljka Vuković (Montenegro) as Vice-Chair of its twentieth session. At

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the same meeting, the Commission decided to postpone the election of the other members of the Bureau to a later date. Subsequently, the Group of Asia-Pacific States endorsed Nurlan Kapparov (Kazakhstan) to replace Mazhit Turmagambetov (Kazakhstan).

The membership of the Commission for its twentieth session is contained in the annex to the present document.

## 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda for the session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

In its decision 2011/243 of 27 July 2011, the Council took note of the report of the Commission on its nineteenth session and approved the provisional agenda for its twentieth session. Subsequently, in its decision 2013/234 of 24 July 2013, the Council approved a revised provisional agenda for the twentieth session of the Commission.

## 3. Lessons learned from the Commission on Sustainable Development, and the way forward

The legacy of the Commission has spanned two decades. It has played a lead role in agenda-setting, dialogue and strategic thinking on sustainable development challenges.

The Commission has provided a distinct platform for keeping the sustainable development agenda under active review. It has also made a contribution to advancing sustainable development policies at the regional and national levels through the regional implementation meetings and the development of national sustainable development strategies. It has witnessed the active participation and contribution of a wide range of government representatives, major groups and other stakeholders. It has hosted and launched initiatives and partnerships to advance sustainable development.

At the same time, the Commission has faced challenges and limitations, particularly during the past decade, in relation to its ability to fully integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development into its work and outcomes, as well as into the work of the United Nations system; its weak capacity for monitoring and review of sustainable development implementation, especially with regard to finance, capacity-building and technology; and the rigidity in its agenda, which did not allow it to respond with sufficient flexibility to new and emerging issues.[1]

The Commission will hold a panel discussion under this agenda item.

## 4. Conclusion of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

In its resolution 2013/19 of 24 July 2013, the Council requested the Commission to conclude its work at its twentieth and last session on 20 September 2013. The Council further decided to abolish the Commission with effect from the conclusion of its twentieth session.

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[1] See A/67/757.

**5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twentieth session**

Also in its resolution 2013/19, the Council requested the Commission to transmit its final report to the Council on that day.

# Annex

## Membership of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twentieth session

Algeria
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Armenia
Australia
Bahamas
Belarus
Belgium
Benin
Botswana
Brazil
China
Colombia
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Denmark
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia
France
Germany
Indonesia
Israel
Italy
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Luxembourg
Malaysia
Mauritius
Mexico
Mongolia
Montenegro
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Spain
Thailand
Togo
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America